

MAY 13 1983

# POTATOES & SWEETPOTATOES

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## ESTIMATED POTATO STOCKS

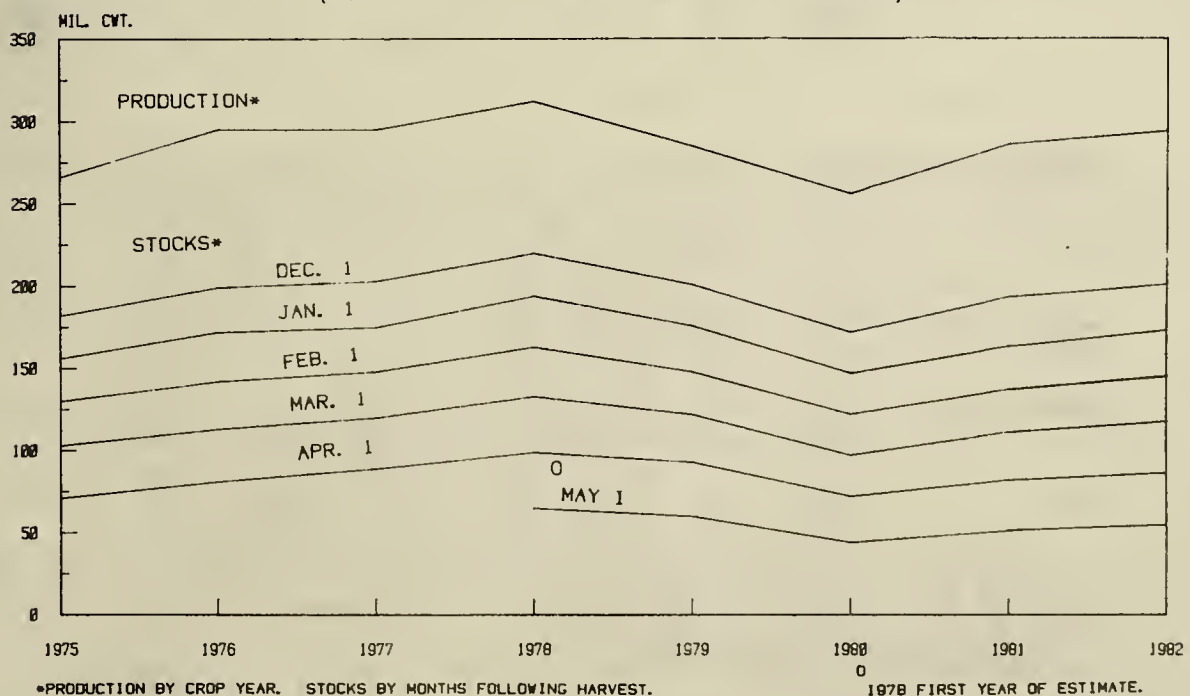
### POTATO STOCKS UP 4 PERCENT

May 1, 1983 potato stocks are estimated at 52.9 million cwt (2.40 million metric tons) for the 15 major fall producing States. This is up 4 percent from last May 1 and 19 percent above two years ago. The May 1 stocks accounted for 18 percent of production in these 15 States, the same percentage as a year ago.

In the three Eastern States, estimated holdings totaled 5.5 million cwt, 4 percent less than a year ago but 6 percent above two years ago. Maine storage dropped to 4.5 million cwt, 12 percent short of last May and 6 percent below two years ago. New York stocks are up 6 percent from last year while Pennsylvania holdings are more than doubled, but stocks in both States are small.

(Comments continued on page 4)

### FALL POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND STOCKS (FOR 15 STATES ESTIMATING POTATO STOCKS)



NOTE: Stocks are defined as the quantity remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including shrinkage and waste and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Sales of fall potatoes for all purposes generally account for about 90 percent of the total fall production. Shrinkage and loss and home use account for the remaining 10 percent.

TABLE 1. FALL POTATOES: DECEMBER 1, JANUARY 1, FEBRUARY 1, MARCH 1, APRIL 1, AND MAY 1 TOTAL STOCKS, AND COMPARABLE PRODUCTION FOR 15 STATES ESTIMATING POTATO STOCKS

| CROP YEAR | PRODUCTION | DEC 1   | JAN 1   | FEB 1   | MAR 1   | APR 1  | MAY 1  |
|-----------|------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1,000 CWT |            |         |         |         |         |        |        |
| 1972      | 242,390    | 155,190 | 132,050 | 105,690 | 82,510  | 57,860 |        |
| 1973      | 247,686    | 154,890 | 131,600 | 105,360 | 80,460  | 55,465 |        |
| 1974      | 278,679    | 183,850 | 160,100 | 131,480 | 102,963 | 75,217 |        |
| 1975      | 266,422    | 181,720 | 156,220 | 129,710 | 102,850 | 70,970 |        |
| 1976      | 294,978    | 198,630 | 172,230 | 142,030 | 112,830 | 81,130 |        |
| 1977      | 295,421    | 202,550 | 175,300 | 147,930 | 119,850 | 88,680 |        |
| 1978      | 311,981    | 219,850 | 193,520 | 162,980 | 132,570 | 99,250 | 64,830 |
| 1979      | 285,060    | 200,820 | 176,020 | 147,910 | 121,720 | 92,550 | 59,535 |
| 1980      | 255,691    | 171,730 | 146,610 | 121,565 | 97,280  | 72,460 | 44,446 |
| 1981      | 286,245    | 192,810 | 163,180 | 137,120 | 111,280 | 81,870 | 50,660 |
| 1982      | 294,082    | 201,775 | 173,500 | 144,950 | 116,500 | 84,845 | 52,904 |

TABLE 2. POTATOES USED FOR PROCESSING 1/, EIGHT STATES, 1981 AND 1982 CROPS

| STATE                      | STORAGE SEASON | TO DEC 1 | TO JAN 1 | TO FEB 1 | TO MAR 1 | TO APR 1 | TO MAY 1 | ENTIRE SEASON |
|----------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| IDAHO & MALHEUR CO., OREG  | 1981-82        | 16,720   | 21,450   | 26,000   | 31,205   | 36,840   | 42,270   | 56,585        |
|                            | 1982-83        | 14,330   | 18,645   | 23,395   | 28,535   | 34,480   | 39,715   |               |
| MAINE 2/                   | 1981-82        | 2,145    | 2,715    | 3,450    | 4,135    | 5,195    | 5,975    | 7,325         |
|                            | 1982-83        | 2,075    | 2,800    | 3,675    | 4,430    | 5,315    | 6,195    |               |
| WASH AND OTHER AREAS, OREG | 1981-82        | 17,730   | 21,255   | 24,940   | 29,175   | 33,855   | 38,095   | 47,325        |
|                            | 1982-83        | 16,840   | 20,130   | 23,685   | 27,870   | 32,100   | 36,365   |               |
| OTHER STATES 3/            | 1981-82        | 5,088    | 6,329    | 7,743    | 9,385    | 11,111   | 12,750   | 15,769        |
|                            | 1982-83        | 5,651    | 7,135    | 8,625    | 10,220   | 12,170   | 13,820   |               |
| TOTAL                      | 1981-82        | 41,683   | 51,749   | 62,133   | 73,900   | 87,001   | 99,090   | 127,004       |
|                            | 1982-83        | 38,896   | 48,710   | 59,380   | 71,055   | 84,065   | 96,095   |               |

1/ TOTAL QUANTITY RECEIVED AND USED FOR PROCESSING REGARDLESS OF THE STATE IN WHICH THE POTATOES WERE PRODUCED. DOES NOT INCLUDE QUANTITIES USED FOR POTATO CHIPS IN MAINE, MICH, MINN, N DAK OR WIS.

2/ INCLUDES MAINE GROWN POTATOES ONLY. 3/ MICH, MINN, N DAK AND WIS.

TABLE 3. POTATOES: PRODUCTION AND TOTAL STOCKS OF FALL POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS, PROCESSORS, AND LOCAL DEALERS ON MAY 1, 1982 AND MAY 1, 1983

| STATE    | CROP OF 1981        |                 |                     | CROP OF 1982        |                 |              |
|----------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|
|          | : MAY 1 STOCKS:     |                 |                     | : MAY 1 STOCKS      |                 |              |
|          | : PRODUC-           | : TOTAL STOCKS: | : AS % OF           | : PRODUC-           | : TOTAL STOCKS: | : AS % OF    |
|          | : TION :MAY 1, 1982 | : PRODUCTION    | : TION :MAY 1, 1983 | : TION :MAY 1, 1983 | : PRODUCTION    | : PRODUCTION |
|          |                     | 1,000 CWT       | PERCENT             |                     | 1,000 CWT       | PERCENT      |
| CALIF    | : 6,919             | 1,000           | 14                  | 7,585               | 1,100           | 15           |
| COLO     | : 11,600            | 1,900           | 16                  | 12,600              | 2,050           | 16           |
| IDAHO    | : 84,540            | 23,500          | 28                  | 89,890              | 23,000          | 26           |
| MAINE    | : 26,520            | 5,100           | 19                  | 26,500              | 4,500           | 27           |
| MICH     | : 7,050             | 700             | 10                  | 8,085               | 1,200           | 15           |
| MINN     | : 13,300            | 1,900           | 14                  | 11,520              | 1,700           | 15           |
| MONT     | : 1,739             | 30              | 2                   | 1,924               | 200             | 10           |
| NEBR     | : 2,252             | 200             | 9                   | 2,147               | 230             | 11           |
| N Y      | :                   |                 |                     |                     |                 |              |
| L I      | : 5,365             | 30              | 1                   | 4,995               | 124             | 2            |
| UPSTATE  | : 6,875             | 300             | 4                   | 7,020               | 225             | 3            |
| N DAK    | : 20,125            | 1,900           | 9                   | 17,250              | 2,600           | 15           |
| OHIO     | : 1,890             | -               | -                   | 2,328               | 1/              | -            |
| OREG     | : 21,710            | 4,000           | 18                  | 21,105              | 4,600           | 22           |
| PA       | : 5,250             | 330             | 6                   | 5,758               | 695             | 12           |
| WASH     | : 52,920            | 8,300           | 16                  | 52,800              | 8,600           | 16           |
| WIS      | : 18,190            | 1,470           | 8                   | 22,575              | 2,080           | 9            |
| 15 STATE | :                   |                 |                     |                     |                 |              |
| TOTAL    | : 286,245           | 50,660          | 18                  | 294,082             | 52,904          | 18           |

1/ OHIO COMBINED WITH LONG ISLAND TO PREVENT POSSIBLE DISCLOSURE OF INDIVIDUAL OPERATIONS.

The "Root Mean Square Error" for the May 1, 1983 potato stocks estimate is 8.0 percent. This means that chances are 2 out of 3 that the current estimate of 52.9 million hundredweight will not be above or below the final estimate by more than 8.0 percent or approximately 4.23 million hundredweight. Chances are 9 out of 10 (90 percent confidence level) that the difference will not exceed 13.9 percent or approximately 7.35 million hundredweight.

During the past 4 years, the difference between the May 1 preliminary and final estimate averaged 4.20 million hundredweight. The largest deviation was 4.60 and the smallest was 3.62 million hundredweight. The preliminary May 1 estimate was below the final estimate 3 out of the past 4 years.





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Stocks in the six Central States totaled 7.8 million cwt, 27 percent greater than a year ago and double the amount on hand two years ago. Wisconsin stocks at 2.1 million cwt are up 41 percent; Michigan holdings at 1.2 million cwt are up 71 percent. Minnesota potato stocks at 1.7 million cwt are down 11 percent from last year; and North Dakota stocks of 2.6 million cwt are up 37 percent.

The six Western States held an estimated 39.6 million cwt of potatoes on May 1, 1983, 2 percent more than a year ago and 12 percent more than two years ago. Idaho storages, accounting for over two-fifths of the national total, held 23.0 million cwt of potatoes, down 2 percent from a year earlier. The removal of frost damaged potatoes from cellars continued last month. Substantial quantities of potatoes were dumped or sent to feedlots. Farmers indicate that over 2 percent of the potatoes remaining in storage on May 1 may not be marketable due to frost damage. Washington stocks of 8.6 million cwt are up 4 percent; while Oregon holdings of 4.6 million cwt are up 15 percent from last year. Colorado stocks are up 8 percent; while California has 10 percent more potatoes stored than last May.

Disappearance to May 1, 1983 in the 15 major fall States totaled 241 million cwt, 2 percent above the same period a year ago. This includes 30.1 million cwt of potatoes dumped during grading, fed to livestock on potato farms, discarded without grading and lost to shrinkage (moisture loss) compared with 25.4 million cwt a year earlier. Disappearance for the month of April totaled 31.9 million cwt compared with 31.2 million cwt for April 1982.

Potatoes processed to May 1, 1983 in eight major processing States totaled 96.1 million cwt, 3 percent less than in the same period a year earlier. Processing during April totaled 12.0 million cwt compared with 12.1 million cwt for April 1982.

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